

Executive Sessions? We don't exclude the press. We allow the press to report what goes on which pretty much is just who voted which way without going into any discussion. But I am just wondering if maybe this bill should be amended that as long as the press is allowed at the Legislature's Executive Sessions, shouldn't the people have a right, the same right as the press to know what is going on in Executive Session? After all, they used to be smoke-filled rooms. Of course, they aren't any more. So I think, Senator Hoagland, since the bill has been amended that I cannot support it. I didn't support it originally in committee. Then when they said they were going to amend it, I thought perhaps it would make it a better bill. Now I am just not sure that this bill is doing what it was originally intended to do, make it accessible to all of the people all of the time to all of our open meetings. So I think on that basis, Senator, I am going to have to oppose the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I support now LB 43 as it is amended. There is a phrase, I think, that is worthy of clear delineation on the floor and that is reproducible material. You will find it in the section which requires one copy of reproducible material be made available to the public during an open meeting for their perusal. Now I suppose that could be in a place where there is a council member who could simply offer their copy to the public for their reading. However, what is not intended under reproducible material are things, for example, like large maps that are oftentimes used in planning presentations, nor are protected documents under the open records law when presented in closed or executive session. Any document presented in an open part of a session becomes an open record, but for those records which are closed records and which are used in executive session only, those remain closed and do not need to be reproduced nor given to the public. Finally, in the event there are copies of papers brought by say a council member and just simply held up or referred to but which are not reproduced for the rest of the members of the council, that is not a reproducible material under the terms of that language with respect to those parties who have been negotiating for the last day or two. With that clarification as to what was meant by the parties who have been discussing this issue in the recent past, I fully support LB 43 in its amended version.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Question.